

Nidderdale High School 2025-28

Making school unmissable

Through a focus on developing a strong sense of belonging and purpose we will enable all members of our school community to be partners in their own success. Students, staff and parents will be empowered to contribute to the success of the school which will be measured through strong and constantly improving attendance, behaviour, progress and attainment, leading to attainable but aspirational next steps for all young people including those with SEND, disadvantaged students and those who may face other barriers to learning. In all aspects of school life, we will seek to take students beyond their own experience and create a sense of adventure, making school unmissable for all young people.

<p>Sense of Belonging and Purpose All learners, staff and parents will feel a strong sense of belonging and purpose as part of 'Team Nidderdale'. Evidenced through strong attendance, behaviour which demonstrates commitment to our Team Nidd Values, parental engagement / support and external validation of inclusive practice.</p>	<p>Sense of Empowerment and Success Students, staff and parents will be empowered to contribute to their own success and the success of the school. A focus on adaptive teaching and appropriate curriculum adaptations, alongside the embedding of our reading strategy will ensure all can access their learning and make strong progress. The further development of PSHE, PD and Careers will ensure all students are empowered to understand themselves and be aspirational for their future. Staff will be empowered to develop their own professional practice.</p>	<p>Sense of adventure We will seek to create opportunities for students to step out of their comfort zone and develop a sense of adventure. Through maximising the impact of NiddVenture curriculum, the creative curriculum, extra-curricular activities and creative use of AI and other technologies, students will be taken beyond their usual experience and broaden their horizons.</p>
<p>Team Nidd Values Students and staff will embrace and exemplify Team Nidd Values in all aspects of their work. Students are given opportunities to demonstrate their commitment to our values in a range of tangible and meaningful ways.</p>	<p>Reading Strategy A culture of reading and clear approaches to disciplinary literacy including reading, writing and vocabulary development will be embedded in curriculum planning across all subjects. All teaching and support staff understand and contribute to the 'weakest 20% readers' plan to ensure these students do not find reading a barrier to curriculum access.</p>	<p>Creative curriculum Students will have opportunities to experience and participate in a growing range of music, dance and drama activities and performances. A review of the Flourish programme will identify opportunities for community engagement and links to other organisations and providers.</p>

<p>Parental engagement Strong links will be formed with parental volunteers through the re-establishment of the PTFA. The school will actively seek to make this group representative of the school's demographic. Parents will be given the opportunity to contribute to the further development of the school and their child's success through a programme of information events and parent forums.</p>	<p>SEND strategy All staff will be empowered to adapt their practice to support students with SEND through active engagement with pupil passports. Carefully planned interventions and nurture group provision will enable young people to make accelerated progress and 'catch up' to age related expected standards where possible. Adaptive technology will be utilised to enable students to access the curriculum and demonstrate their knowledge and understanding.</p>	<p>NiddVenture We will seek to maximise the impact and reach of NiddVenture to provide meaningful opportunities for adventure for Nidderdale students, local primary schools and hard to reach young people in the locality. NiddVenture will continue to develop bespoke programmes to meet identified needs and to provide challenge and enrichment through 'once in a lifetime' expeditions.</p>
<p>Inclusion and Diversity Continue to embed respect, equality, and inclusion across all aspects of school life by achieving the full RED Award. This will ensure pupils consistently demonstrate these values through their attitudes, relationships, and responses to difference. Complete the process necessary to achieve external validation of inclusive practice through the Inclusion Quality mark.</p>	<p>Strong Curriculum, Teaching and Assessment Teaching will be consistently challenging and well-paced to ensure progress and promote strong outcomes and achievement. Quality first teaching underpinned by a range of assessment strategies will result in responsive and adaptive teaching to meet the needs of all, including those with SEND, disadvantaged students and those facing other barriers to learning.</p>	<p>Use of AI and use of technology Staff and students will be supported to harness the creative and academic power of AI and other technologies. They will be supported to understand the risks and challenges regarding online safety and intellectual integrity associated with new technologies.</p>
<p>Attendance strategy Attendance will match and then exceed national benchmarks for all students and identified groups. Judicious use of part-time timetables will be monitored closely to ensure they contribute to improved attendance. EHE and flexible school requests will be considered with 'professional curiosity' to ensure appropriate decisions are made. All SA students will be supported by a bespoke plan to promote re-engagement. Punctuality to lessons will be high and lesson avoidance low.</p>	<p>Careers strategy Through visits to employers, FE and HE, employer engagement activities, work experience and expert careers guidance all students at KS3 and KS4 will be supported to make aspirational but attainable plans for their next steps post-16. Complete the process necessary to achieve external validation of excellent practice through the Careers Mark.</p>	<p>Extra-curricular opportunities All students including those with SEND, disadvantaged students and those with other barriers to learning have access to a wide range of opportunities within and beyond school. Close tracking ensures that all students are encouraged to broaden their horizons through Flourish, school clubs and visits. Opportunities for challenge and enrichment across MLT are planned to be inclusive and minimise potential barriers to inclusion.</p>

<p>Behaviour Through a focus on the continuum of exclusion students, staff and parents will be supported to fully understand and embrace the ‘reset and restore’ model. This will lead to consistently purposeful learning experiences, avoiding low level disruption. Lesson removals, where necessary, will be followed by work to restore relationships. Suspension and exclusion rates will continue to fall.</p>	<p>Successful Independent learners A culture of effective study will be built through review of homework, the specific teaching of effective study techniques and knowledge retention.</p>	<p>Sporting opportunities Opportunities for competition and collaboration will be further explored through the ‘Dales Cup’ initiative. Through partnership with other organisations we will explore the viability of sports facilities for the community.</p>
<p>Primary links Transition activities and curriculum links will generate a sense of ‘belonging before you start’ for pupils and parents within catchment and beyond.</p>	<p>PD and PSHE review All young people will have a highly developed understanding of Team Nidd values, British Values and protected characteristics. Personal Development opportunities and PSHE topics are delivered through the taught curriculum and through a wide range of other school activities.</p>	
<p>Student leadership All young people will have a strong sense of ownership and belonging through opportunities for leadership, mentoring and representing their school.</p>	<p>CPD Pathways and Progression for staff Highly effective CPD, including Appraisal IQs and leadership programmes are in place to support and motivate staff to deliver improvements in teaching and learning and outcomes for students. Staff at every level have clear progression routes underpinned by MLT career stage expectations.</p>	
<p>Safeguarding Safeguarding at Nidderdale High School is effective because leaders have created a strong culture of vigilance where all staff share responsibility for pupil welfare, act swiftly on concerns, and ensure that every child is safe, supported, and able to thrive. Safeguarding is not a standalone process but part of the school’s ethos, daily routines, and inclusive practice.</p>		
<p>Continue to embed respect, equality, and inclusion across all aspects of school life by achieving the full RED Award. This will ensure pupils consistently demonstrate these values through their attitudes, relationships, and responses to difference. Strengthen site security, particularly around the reception area and visitor sign-in process. Review and enhance safeguarding procedures linked to site access to ensure the reception area remains secure.</p>		